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MONTEREY NEWS

August, 1980

O U R T O W N

Monterey Energy Project

On July 26, the Monterey Energy Project held its first benefit auction under the Firemen's tent in Greene Park. Under the inspired guidance of Cheryl Hutto, and the skilled assistance of Valerie Locher, hundreds of items, old and new, beyond and beneath compare, bargains all of them galore, changed hands from neighbor to neighbor, all in the cause of energy self-reliance. There were antique stoves and broken chairs, a water ski and an old TV. There were gift certificates from merchants throughout the area and tickets from the Berkshire Theater Festival, Tanglewood, and Jacob's Pillow. Millie donated ten gallons of gas and two tickets to the Steak Roast, the General Store donated several dinners, Jed Lipsky donated a log-truck filled with firewood, and townspeople emptied their attics. Cheryl coaxed the nickels, dimes, and dollars out of every pocket and by the time morning had turned to afternoon, the Energy Project had netted almost $1200, and all involved were dreaming about next year, when with a little more skill and a lot more organization and junque, the Project could earn even more. Check those attics again, friends!

On Thursday August 7, the Energy Project members met and decided to use the auction money to purchase 3 anemometers. Anemometers are wind-measuring devices. They are installed on 40-foot aluminum poles with guy wires, and register the speed and constancy of the wind. As of today we have no clear idea how much wind we get here in Monterey. Many people in the energy field believe that the Berkshires, utilizing the wind potential it has, could make a sizeable contribution to the production of electricity using wind generators. Well the first step is putting up wind-monitoring equipment to see what we've got and if and where we should think about placing wind machines. Currently wind kits cost between $350 and $400. Right now we're thinking about the three best sites to put up the anemometers. They've got to go up about forty feet on clear high land. Hopefully we can find at least one plot close to the center of town. One of our prime goals is to eventually produce power that will go directly to serve the electricity needs of our town buildings. If you have a little land you'd like to donate for six months to a year for wind monitoring purposes, please write the Project at Box 125 or stop in at Millie's.

On Thurs, Aug 21, 6:30 the Project will hold its first annual meeting in the Church basement to review what we've done this past year and to discuss what we might do in the year to come. At 7:30 we will present a special workshop on solar greenhouses by Willard Brown. Please join us for one meeting, the other, or both.

By the way, I bought the old TV for five dollars. It's got a terrific view of white and gray fuzz. It reminds me of a foggy night on Stony Brook Road. I just hope we find wind.

Mickey Friedman

Monterey Store to Receive Permit

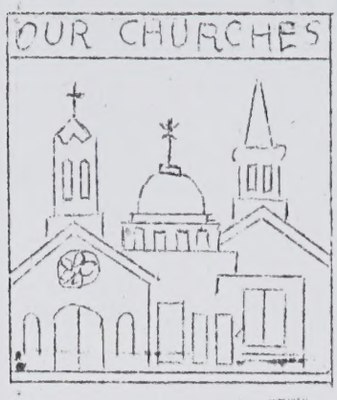
After a four week period of discussion and questionings, the Selectmen have agreed that all is in order to issue a permit for the Monterey General Store. A small group of citizens have questioned the selectman's decision that the permit be granted and have attended the Selectmen's meetings while it was under review. Issues have been raised in particular about parking, the adequacy of sanitary facilities and the fact that the residence of Bill and Linda Hock, part owners, is above the store and cafe.

In the judgement of the selectmen all of these conditions are adequately met. Town Council, Hugh Cowhig was asked to review the case and agreed that the issuing of the permit is appropriate. At the August 11 meeting the selectmen indicated the permit would be processed.

Community Supper

The Community Supper will be held in the Church basement on August 27 at 6:30 PM Bring your own place setting and a salad, main dish or dessert. Slides of I Love Monterey Day will be shown.

(continued after Gould Farm News inside)



CATHOLIC CHURCHES

Masses Schedule Our Lady of the Hills, Sat. 7 PM Our Lady of the Valley, Sheffield, Sat., 5:30 PM; Sunday 7:30, 9:00, 10:30 AM. Immaculate Conception Mill River, Sunday 10:00 AM.

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Worship and Regular Meetings Morning Worship each Sunday at 10:30 AM. Childcare each Sunday 10:30 AM in the Social Room....Meditation and Prayer for any in the community who wish to join us, each Thursday at 7:30 AM in the Social Room....Prayer Group, each Thursday 7:45 PM at the home of Lucy Smith.

The Monterey Story A booklet has been produced through much cooperative action in the church, presenting a view of the Monterey Church's relationship to the larger community. The booklet came into being at the initiative of the Finance Committee but it has also been studied and approved by the Parish Council. Plans are to have The Monterey Story available to all persons in town.

Ecumenical Worship An ecumenical worship to which the whole community is invited is planned for Labor Day weekend on Sunday August 31 at 10:30 AM. The worship will feature Jewish, Roman Catholic and Protestant participants. The theme of the worship will be to celebrate the common life we all share and to recognize that our community is enriched by both our diversities as well as our elements of unity.

MONTEREY GRANGE #291

The Monterey Grange recently went on a mystery ride in charge of Richard Hardesty which ended up at Laurel Grange in East Canaan. We also went to Umpochene Grange for a Competitive Program which we won with a Court Scene - we recently furnished 730 cookies for the Coffee hour at the Veteran's hospital in Leeds. The First Pancake Breakfast on June 29 was a success, also the Food sale on July 12 was a great success and we want to thank all who helped in any way. We have been invited to neighbors night on July 18 at Pittsfield 14.

The Worthy Lecturer recently took part in a "This is your life program" for Deputy Fred Terrell at Worthington Grange.

July 19 was our annual Youth night when Youth from surrounding granges filled the offices and furnished the program with Richard Hardesty acting as Master and Mary McLellan from West Stockbridge as lecturer. Deputy Lucy A. Wuori, Special Youth Representative Alice Brazie and Julie Markbaum, a member of the Sate Grange Committee, was also presnet.

The next Pancake Breakfast will be August 3 and the next food sale will be August 16.

Mary Wallace, Lecturer

YOUTH GROUP

The principal activity of the youth group this summer was their retreat to Warner farm in Cummington, Mass. in July.

The group is also doing much planning for next year. Such planning includes possible weekend trips every two months approximately. They would visit places that are interesting and informative; such as Boston, New York and Montreal.

Also, during the late summer, the group wants to do improvement work on Monterey's part of the Appalachian Trail.

The Youth Group's regular meetings will resume in the early Fall.

Kevin Bradley
Youth Editor

Library Hours

During the Summer the Library is open Monday 7-9, Tuesday 9:30-12, Wednesday 3-5, and Saturday 9:30-12:00 and 7:00 to 9:00 PM.

Historical Society Wing is open Saturday mornings until noon.

FAITH VERSUS FEAR

Fear is an awesome thing. Its capacity to distort one's vision is simply amazing. The house I lived in as a young child was far too crowded. In my bedroom there were several piles of various things. When I woke up at night I saw these piles, but in the dark they were transformed into fearsome beasts. I would lie in my bed quaking with terror. Finally the morning light would reveal that my fear had transformed harmless articles into monstrous creatures.

A few years later I was involved in another brand of fear. A movement that evoked fear of those who were of different faiths swept through Iowa where I lived. The word was passed that people who were living around us were dangerous to our well-being. Who were these dangerous people? Stories circulated that Roman Catholics had guns stored in their homes and at word from the pope none of our lives would be worth much. There were also what seemed well-documented evidences that the Jews were going to control all the wealth and leave the rest of us helpless and defenseless. What happened? To my childish amazement the pope never gave the order, and, of course, later truth revealed that there never had been any guns. Similarly, time and experience made it clear that Jews and all others could work harmoniously, and so it has continued to this time. Why was I caught up in such mind-bending fear as a youngster? They did seem awfully convincing at the time. It seemed perfectly reasonable to me then, that people who had different belief systems were somehow a threat to our individual and community peace and security.

Through the years I have learned that the spirit-warping effect of fear that I experienced in my childhood is not something that was confined to that time nor peculiar to the north-west corner of Iowa. To be human is to be susceptible to the awesomely dangerous effects of fear. None of us can claim to be so enlightened, so objective or so scientific that we are beyond the power of fear to cloud our vision or skew our perspective. To be sure, the more we are able to be objective, the less we are affected by fear. But the truth is, by our very humanity, we are subjective. We do live inside ourselves, and therein lies the danger.

The effect of fear can be devastating. Fear is one of the most destructive of emotions. How blindly it reaches out to destroy when fear is played out on larger stages. Fear and hate - together with diabolical politics - killed six million Jews in the holocaust in Germany in the 1940's. Let us not forget that Germany was a highly educated and cultured nation, yet when people allowed fear to control them their judgement and values were dangerously warped. For this reason all of us need to be on guard concerning the things we find ourselves doing under the influence of fear.

The lesson that has remained with me from my childhood is how irrational are the fears that are set up by differences in belief systems. There is something about that person who believes differently - and who therefore has a different perception of reality - that provokes a primitive fear reaction. Faith at its deepest roots is supra-rational; its deepest ground lies beyond purely rational evidences; "it is the soul's invincible surmise." I wonder if, therefore, we are not more vulnerable to fear and clouded vision in regard to differences in belief? I raise this question for all persons who take their faith seriously to ponder.

It is against this background that we may consider what has occured in and around Monterey over the last few months. Recently a group has come into a neighboring community whose belief system has elements with which we may not be familiar. It is not unexpected that there will be questionings and wonderings. What has concerned many of us, however, is the level of fear that has surfaced and played its way out, not wholly unlike that fear which swept through Iowa in my childhood. The real danger when such a thing happens is that rights and freedoms become endangered. There is no question whatsoever that the rights and freedoms of Roman Catholics and Jews were threatened and reduced when Iowa lost its balance in the midst of a mind-bending fear. Fear creates rumors; rumors feed fears; facts become hopelessly obscured. What sorry scenes appear when fear comes into center stage.

Speaking as only one person, but one who cares deeply about the quality of life that prevails in Monterey, I look for the rapid dispersal of fear in Monterey. I do not believe that fear is to rule the day. Rather, let this be a time in which each of us looks deeply to the roots of his or her own faith. As strange as it may seem, a time such as we are passing through can eventually be turned to blessing, if we use the opportunity to clarify our thinking and align ourselves with our higher purpose. It should give each of us pause and cause us to look searchingly into the origins of our own ways of believing and behaving. a clear, strong affirmation of one's faith in the Eternal God as a positive expression of inner strength is the best response of all to fear and uncertainty.

The faith of another, however different, is no threat to me if I stand with a deep affirmation of my own faith. Yes, and if another tells me of his or her different experience of faith, and I continue to operate from a secure basis of my own faith, I may indeed find ways to deepen my own understanding and expression of faith. I smile now when I think of my childhood fears of Roman Catholics and Jews, for after many years, I know I am more deeply grounded in my own heritage than before - but praise be to God - Roman Catholics and Jews have steadily contributed to the real quality of life and faith that dwells in me. If I had continued into adulthood with

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a version of my childhood fears this blessing would have been barred to me.

Beloved fellow citizens of Monterey, I ask you to ponder a deep paradox with me. Religious faith has written some of the darkest chapters in human history; it has also written some of the most glorious. How can this be? There can be little doubt that when religious differences are fired with fear some of the most heart-rending dramas of cruel inhumanity have occurred. The libraries are full of the evidence for those who care to search it out. There is not a single religious group which cannot recount story after story of indignities they have suffered at the hands of other religious people. This is the dark side of religious history that none of us should let ourselves forget. It is painful to remember, but remember it we must.

Yet it also remains true that some of the most glorious chapters of the human story have been illuminated by people who have understood beyond all doubt that the central fact about God is that the Father/Mother God is love. The very life-blood of Christianity, that strand of religious tradition I know best, is rooted and grounded in One who willingly and freely suffered injustice rather than to inflict it. Yet how many who claim His name lapse into a position that is directly contrary to that spirit.

I deeply believe that fear is no match for faith. I believe also that a person's faith must stand ever under the purifying influences of the Eternal One who is of the purest love. One of the deepest functions of faith is to cleanse and purify the stream of life. As all of us continue our pilgrimage out of the darknesses that attach themselves to us, let us rejoice together that we are called to be a people of hope. If you and I know ourselves well, we surely have come into confrontation with the flaws in our nature - the weaknesses to which we have succummed. A vital faith is ever at work within the believer to deepen the dwelling of the Eternal in that person. This should be a source of great comfort and strength to all of us. Faith has a staying power; faith carries us through the various crises of our lives and "restores us to our rightful mind." This is why I look with steady hope regarding Monterey and its spirit. Yes, it is true, fear is no match for faith.

Virgil V. Brallier, Minister
Monterey United Church of Christ

(The Monterey News presents a second guest article in two months. This one is written by Stewart and Jean Stowell. They live on Sylvan Road, having become permament residents of Monterey in June. They were summer residents for 13 years. For seven years they were members of the Order Ecumenical, otherwise known as the Institute for Cultural Affairs. They are members of the United Church of Christ and intend to become members of the Monterey Church.)

REFLECTIONS AFTER MONTEREY DAY, NUMBER TWO

Having a structure for expressing one's love for one's community is an indication of a healthy spirit existing here - one which should be cherished.

Our last two years were spent in a small rural town where no such enthusiasm existed. We were two of six persons working on a project with local people to encourage pride and do planning so that the economic base might be strengthened, the social life broadened, and the people's sense of responsibility find successful avenues in which to work.

The difficulties were many as were the misunderstandings and confusions, but the benefits were real - in terms of honoring not only the heritage but the present requirements for a satisfying community life.

People began to believe in the importance of their town and the role they themselves play in keeping secure its foundations. First came the readiness to assume responsibility. Then willingness to champion the needs at county and state levels - even nationally. Inevitably there was the continuing harrassment, obstruction and misrepresentation on the part of those who were suspicious, and the patient bearing of that burden by members of the community who had committed themselves to work for the good of all. Even so, those who were the "no" sayers played an important role in addressing the courage and determination of the "yes" people. The stirrings of consciousness in both groups made evident the strength there is in diversity.

The cost of our intrusion, if you will, was great in terms of lost opportunities, painful, prayerful meetings and seemingly endless conferences with a hostile press. The six of us were called variously cultists, social missionaries, communists and militarists (we saw ourselves as researchers and catalyzers). The community's struggle brought, and is bringing, enlivening power. And it emphasized the need to celebrate - both victories and non-victories - for it is finally the effort people make to win justice for each other that brings humanness and allows for joy in community.

Stewart and Jean Stowell

For the eleventh successive summer, Pastor Richard Lindgren brought a group of Lutheran teen-agers to hold a work camp at the Youth Lodge. This time there were four boys and three girls. It was the third such visit for one of the boys. Two others had been here last year also. They stayed ten days joining in the work program. They painted houses, weeded the garden, worked with the animals and led a Sunday night service. The young people say they enjoy meeting the Farm guests, playing ping-pong and pool, attending a Tanglewood concert, swimming and sitting by their campfire in the evenings.

The Rev. Jurgen Leias came with six of his young parishioners for a twenty-four hour religious retreat from St. Paul's Church, Episcopal in Malden, Mass. They too stayed at the Youth Lodge.

Elizabeth Quincy joined the Farm staff early this month. She is a graduate of Emerson College, where she majored in Human Services and the Dance. She became acquainted with the Farm a while ago, when her brother was here. Her home in is Schenectady. Elizabeth plans to stay about a year.

Jehann Geith first came to the Farm on a young people's work trip from Lincoln, Mass. with the Rev. Henry Stewart. Her home is in Lincoln. She returned this summer to spend about six weeks as a staff member. Jehann has had a year at Boston University, studying nursing and psychology, and will return there this fall.

Nancy Rowley, a friend of Lydia Snow, who is a summer staff member here, arrived in mid-July to join the staff. She is a graduate of the University of Vermont, where she majored in the field of Human Development and Family Living. She expects to stay about a year.

Marcia Stucklen learned of the Farm from Janet West, who until recently was the head of Farrington House. Marcia grew up in the Berkshires. Her home is in Hillsdale. She is a graduate of Mt. Holyoke College, where whe received a B.A. in psychology, with a minor in music. For the past year she was a Vista Volunteer in W. Virginia, working as a counselor and advisor for battered women. She hopes to spend a year or more at the Farm.

Rose McKee
Gould Farm

OUR TOWN continued

Fireman's Steak Dinner

The Fireman's Steak Dinner on July 26 was a great success with 800-900 people showing up to eat 700 steaks and numerous hamburgers and hotdogs (sold from the new portable hot dog stand). The steak dinner began at 4:30 and in the evening, the Will Sage Band played music to the partying crowd. The Firemen are pleased with the numbers that showed up, but feel that they fed maximum capacity. So, next year, make sure you get your ticket early before they run out. The profits will be used to further the fire protection of the town.

Annual Gravity Car Race

On Sunday, August 31, be sure you check out the Gravity Car Race at Wallace Hall Road beginning at noon. Last year, 200 to 300 people showed up for the event. The run is a half mile starting at the top of the hill and ending just below where the stream runs under the road. The vehicles are handmade coasters of any kind (nothing run on power). There will be three prizes for speed - First Prize is $100 (speed is determined by the average of the 2 best out of 3 runs). There will also be a prize for the slickest design in the opinion of all the drivers. Entry fee is $10 (register between 10:00 & 11:00), no charge to watch. Around the turn at the bottom of the hill, the Firemen will be selling hotdogs, hamburgs, soda and beer. Don't miss the excitement!

Town Forum Suggested

In view of the fact that Monterey has been passing through a period of conflict and possible division a suggestion was given that the Monterey News sponsor a forum-discussion to which all concerned parties come and talk with each other and the towns-people.

Since the Monterey News seems to be an instrument for sharing issues and opinions surrounding these issues one of the citizens requested that the Monterey News consider calling a meeting in which all could talk directly with each other and with other concerned citizens. The belief was expressed that this could expedite more immediate and direct communication and thus reduce the misunderstanding that have arisen.

The Monterey News would like the response of its readers to the suggestion that such a forum and discussion be planned. Any of the staff members may be contacted. Our editor, Ellen Pearson, is returning from Texas on August 17 and would be pleased to hear from anyone. She may be called at 528-1988.

The organizers of I Love Monterey Day 1980 gratefully give thanks to all those who helped to make the day a success.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

What is the real issue about the Monterey General Store? We must begin by saying that we are grateful to have become acquainted with the many loving and supportive people we have found in Monterey.

There exists, however, a small faction of people here in town who seem to have appointe themselves to be in charge of what they believe is good for Monterey and/or themselves by continually creating harrassment under the disguise of many so-called legal or "by-law" side issues. So we think it's time to clear the air and reveal the real issue as we see it which is the only way anything can be clearly resolved.

It has nothing to do with septic systems, parking lots, how wide the road is or which way the door swings...but rather what can only be described as lifestyle discrimination: the way we eat, what we choose to sell and how we worship God.

We, at the Monterey General Store and Cafe, intend to believe the way we choose, sell healthful foods, non-polluting and chemical free items, and serve delicious food in a great environment.

For those who see apples, bananas, sugar-free candies and sodas, natural foods and herbs as a threat to themselves, their children and their town, and choose not to support our being here, of course that choice is theirs. So is it our choice to do with our lives and our investment as we are doing. It is unfortunate that in our pursuit of this freedom we have become categorized as cultists and a threat to the community. It is only our desire to be able to live and work in the clear thinking, fair and harmonious community which originally drew us here. And, we hope that with God's help we will all be able to grow in acceptance and appreciation of what each and every one of us has to offer.

Linda and Bill Hock

Here's an excerpt from a letter to the Editor the author of which happens by coincidence to be the Editor's Mother. Her sentiments are, we are sure, quite objective, and it is good to know that one sewing club in the nation has been informed about Monterey's unified efforts.

"Got the Monterey News with EKP as editor - came the day I was having sewing club and everyone was impressed. Quite enlarged from several years ago - and interesting news. It's heart-warming to read about a community working together at so many things - there must be a lot of battles as in everything, but you all are trying, at least. Would like to be there..."

Mary Marchman
Waxahachie, Texas

A D V E R T I S E M E N T S

GENERAL STORE HOURS

	STORE	CAFE
Mon.& Tues.	10-6	closed
Wednesday	10-1	closed
Thurs.& Fri.	10-6	Dinner 5:30-9:30
Saturday	9-6	Dinner 5:30-9:30
Sunday	9-3	Brunch 9:30-1:00
		Dinner 5:30-9:30

CONCERTS
At The Center Of The Light
New Marlboro

Aug. 23, 2:30	Empire Brass Quintet And Symposium
Aug. 24, 6 PM	On Wings of Song
Aug. 30, 8 PM	Priscilla Herdman

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